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## MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

From Washington.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Feb. 22, 1860.

## THE STATUE INauguration.

The storm to-day spoiled the whole arrangements for inaugurating the statue of Washington. The programme had to be changed by the delay in the arrival of the New-York Regiment, and there were suggestions to defer the celebration. Everything worked badly, and the enthusiasm of the Chivalry, who had the entire management, was considerably dampened after several hours of steady and dreary rain.

## REDUCTION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

The Minor Appropriation bills, already reported to the House, have been reduced about a half million dollars below the estimates of the Treasury. It is intended to apply this retrenching principle to the larger bills, with the expectation of reducing the aggregate several millions. The navy will be scaled one million dollars, experience showing that the reduction last year did not impair the efficiency of the service.

## THE PRESIDENT ABOUT TO SETTLE DOWN.

It is said the President entertains the idea of purchasing a rural residence near this city, and settling down after the close of his term, having few inducements to resume his Homeland at Wheatland.

## THE CHICAGO CONVENTION.

If Republican Conventions in New-York and Pennsylvania agree to elect solid delegations to Chicago, instead of adopting the district system, it is quite probable the example will be followed by Ohio.

## A DEMOCRATIC SCHEME.

A scheme is on foot here under the encouragement of the Democratic organization, for dividing the Republican strength in Connecticut and Rhode Island, at the approaching elections. The new third party may be used for this purpose, as in Pennsylvania, in 1856, being a mere tail to the kite of Locofocoism, and so designed by some of the leading managers of the movement, who opened free quarters here at the beginning of the session, with means furnished by interested parties behind the scenes. Our friends should be on the alert in both States, or they may be surprised by the results of a secret organization, which has already been initiated in Philadelphia and other places.

## THE MEXICAN TREATY.

Statements representing certain Republican Senators as committed to the Mexican treaty, are wholly unauthorized. Extraordinary efforts have been made to create an opinion, in New-England and elsewhere, favorable to this scheme, which, under the cover of pretended commercial advantages, contemplates the acquisition of the Northern provinces of Mexico, and necessitates the employment of a large army for maintaining the so-called Government of Juarez, and the protection of the privileges proposed by the treaty. The four millions to be paid is the smallest feature of this dangerous and costly experiment.

## PUBLIC BUSINESS.

Although the Departments were not officially closed to-day, public business was generally suspended, as members of the Cabinet and the principal civil and military officers, formed part of the programme for the celebration.

## The Inauguration of the Washington Statue.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Feb. 22, 1860. There has been a drenching rain from the south since 8 o'clock this morning, and a conference is now being held on the subject of a postponement of the celebration.

1. It is wrong to sell human beings, guileless of crime, as property to be bought and sold?  
2. Is it wrong to hold human beings as property, subject to be bought and sold?  
3. Is it wrong to separate by force or law, husbands and wives, parents and children, when neither crime, nor vice, nor insanity in either of the parties calls for such separation?  
4. Have we an equal right with other persons to marry according to their own choice? and should such marriage, when contracted, be held sacred and inviolable?

5. Has a slave woman an absolute right to her chastity? and is the master who violates that chastity guilty of a crime?  
6. Have we a right to read the Bible? and is it a crime to forbid them to be taught to read?  
7. Is the system of slavery as it exists in the Southern States a blessing to the country, which should be cherished and perpetuated by national legislation?

8. Has the right of suffrage, as a mark of honor for the Southern States, morally right?  
These *The Independent* calls "premium questions," and it offers to pay over to the American Board twenty-five dollars each for a simple Yes or No to any or all of them. We fear *The Observer* will be brought up in this controversy from the way in which it has conducted it thus far, with what the sailors call a round turn. We fear the American Board will never touch the two hundred dollars. Time was when *The Observer* would have put in its Yes and Nays straight from the shoulder, and taken the stakes; but at last, we fear, it will not come to time.

We regret to learn that there is serious trouble between the Hon. E. Brooks's "Balance of Power" party, who met in Binghamton the other day, and the so-called National Union party in this city. This latter party, conveniently limited in numbers, had made all necessary arrangements for appointing a delegation to the National Union Presidential Convention; and in this delegation the great body of the National Union party was, of course, to figure. Hereupon the Balance of Power party held its meeting at Binghamton, with about the same numerical force as that which John Brown led into Virginia, and appointed a delegation to the same National Convention. Here is mischief to pay, and how the case will be settled we can't foresee. Our friends in both these parties will, we hope, allow us to counsel them to avoid sectional agitation and fraternal discord. Let them cultivate union, harmony, and the spirit of compromise, and always remember that if they want to be happy, they must be virtuous.

A PAIR OF TWINS—Last evening, a lady, residing in Spring street, presented her husband with two daughters, and was left by the attending physician in a comfortable condition. In the course of three hours thereafter, a ring was heard at the door bell, and under the impression that the Doctor had returned to see his patient, the servant hastened to answer the summons. No one was to be seen in the neighborhood, but upon the stoop was found a basket, which contained two newly born male children, apparently twins. The lady, when informed of the circumstance, seemed well pleased, and at once adopted the little waifs—placing them in bed beside her own. The young travelers were fast asleep, and were comfortably wrapped in costly embroidered flannels.

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To hesitate is to be lost, and *The Observer* hesitates. There is evidently a change in the weather. There are meeting-places that have two weather-cocks, one on the steeple, the other beneath it. Each are useful to tell which way the wind blows. The useful index in the house sometimes gets into the editorial rooms of religious newspapers. But we had expected better things of *The Observer*. We had supposed it might be relied on to the bitter end. We had presumed it to be the one thing unchangeable in these changing times. We had trusted with an unwavering faith in the inexhaustible bitterness and the unfathomable depth of its rancor against any new-fangled application of the doctrine of the rights of man. We had expected it to stand by its color; to stand by the Old Testament; to stand by the curse upon Ham; to stand by the Epistle of Philomont; to stand by the Dred Scott decision; to stand by the stars and stripes—especially the stripes; to never say die; to never give up the ship; to never "cave in;" to never cease to expect that every man would do his duty; and now it is on the point of giving it all up. It must go to the Black List. Oh, Iehabod! Iehabod! Oh, Iremus! Iremus!

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## New-York Daily Tribune.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1860.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We cannot undertake to return selected Communications. No notice can be taken of Anonymous Communications. What ever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee for his good faith. Business letters for THE TRIBUNE should in all cases be addressed to HENRY GRUBBLY & Co.

J. HANDY is an agent in ADRIAN, Michigan, for the sale of THE TRIBUNE. Mr. F. C. BURNETT, at the Telegraph Office, NING SING, N. Y., receives THE DAILY TRIBUNE by the early train each morning, and will be happy to serve it to every order.

## The Tribune Campaign Tracts.

No. 1. SEWARD and O. CONOR.  
No. 2. DEMOCRATIC LEADERS FOR DISUNION—Wilson's Speech. See advertisement.

We print this morning an abstract of the annual report of the Commissioners of Emigration to the Legislature, showing the sudden and serious decrease of the European immigration to this country.

We print this morning a full report of the appropriate celebration of Washington's birthday, which took place last night at the Gramercy House, under the auspices of the Eighteenth Ward Republican Association. The sentiments there uttered by such men as William M. Evans, William Curtis Noyes, and David Dudley Field, ably refute the charges of disunion tendencies brought against the leaders of the Republican party, and place the odium of the same where it justly belongs.

The steamer Europa, with one week's later foreign intelligence reached Halifax yesterday afternoon. Her dates are from Liverpool to the 15th inst., and from Queenstown the day following. The English financial budget had been presented by Mr. Gladstone, giving a very satisfactory exhibit of the finances for the past year. The provisions of the French treaty have been made public, but they have been generally anticipated. Nothing of striking importance in political matters had transpired. The report that the French troops in Italy had received orders to march at a day's notice is confirmed, and it is supposed that the occupation of Tuscany is contemplated in case Piedmont continues to oppose the annexation of Savoy. Austria rejects England's propositions for a settlement of the Italian question. It is supposed that England will resume her mediation between Spain and Morocco. The Ministerial troubles in Naples still continued, as the King adhered to his intention of ordering his army to cross the frontiers. A revolutionary movement had occurred at Accora, near Naples. The Spanish loss in the battle of the 4th was ten officers, and 711 men killed and wounded. Count D'Aguiar, commander of the second Austrian corps d'armée, has announced that after the 15th of February the whole of the Venetian territory, the provinces of Mantua, and districts of Trent, will be governed by martial law. Consuls, 342 at 342. Breadstuffs generally firm, with an advancing tendency.

**THE LAST UNION MEETING.**  
A French Tribune remarked that the coronation parade of Alexander I. of Russia was a most striking spectacle: "The assassins of his grandfather, marching in front of the young Emperor; those of his father on each side; while those who were 'to be his own assassins brought up the rear.' The presence of Gen. Scott at the Union Meeting on Tuesday night, and the acclamations with which he was greeted, supply a parallel to the Muscovite display. Here was a man who ought to have been chosen President in 1852, under the flimsy New-Hampshire Brigadier, and who would have been had he been faithfully supported by the party which had placed him in nomination. But the Hunker Pro-Slavery leaders of the party would not permit his election, simply because he had been urged and was warmly supported by Anti-Slavery men. They could not distrust his fidelity to the Union, his aversion to sectional heart-burning or strife; but they could not consent to see a man chosen President whose nomination was acceptable to the Seward wing of the party—so they knifed him and Washington Hunt along with him. And now we see Hunt foremost in kissing the bloody blade; while Gen. Scott's appearance in a gathering of the school of politicians who desperately opposed his nomination and then secretly conspired to defeat his election, was greeted with tempestuous enthusiasm. These men, having killed the Whig party stone dead by their treachery in 1852, are now seeking to galvanize it into a semblance of life for the benefit of the Sham Democracy in 1860.

—We did not incline on our readers to an unfavorable portion of the talk at this gathering, because it possessed neither novelty nor force. To justify the Union, laud the Union, cheer the Union, and the Union, and then take a course of general exhortation to keep in power those who daily proclaim that they will shatter the Union when they shall no longer be able to rule it, is sheer knavery or blatant folly. To denounce Slavery agitation, as the great evil of our day, yet dodge the vital question on which that agitation is based, is either knavery, trickery or drivell. For the question which underlies and shapes our American Politics, and has done for years, is just this—"Shall *Human Slavery* be recognized as a National institution, good in itself, and to be upheld, fortified and extended by the power of the Union? or shall it be treated as a transient anomaly and sectional evil, to be confined within the limits of the Sovereign States which are fit to harbor it, until they shall respectively decree its extinction?" The former is the view of the Revolutionary Whigs and the Republicans of 1860; the latter is that upheld by the Sham Democracy of our day. One or other of these views must triumph, shaping the National Policy into consistency with itself; for there is clearly no middle ground between them. Nor do the new Unionists distinctly propound any. They merely utter "words, words, words." They denounce both the great parties with impartial bitterness; yet one of them must substantially be right. If Slavery be essentially just and beneficent, or even if it be good or bad according to peculiarities of climate, soil, and productions, then the Nebraska bill was a wise and laudable measure, and its author is just the man for next President. If, on the other hand, Slavery was rightly regarded by Washington and stigmatized by Jefferson as a grievous wrong, whose existence defies the first principles of law-governed liberty, then the Republicans are right, and their cause deserves the support of every patriot. In either case, this "Union" party is a sheer impertinence and futility.

Mr. J. Morrison Harris of Maryland, addressing the Unionists, triumphantly asked—

"What did the people of the North want the question of Slavery? What interest had it for any Northern man to agitate the question of Slavery? But it was the interest of the people, that they might maintain their ascendancy over the public mind."

—Why, Mr. Harris! the returns of our last Presidential Election show that 276,000 legal voters in the State of New-York, and over 1,300,000 in the Union, do "care about Slavery;"—do earnestly desire that Slavery shall not be planted in the Federal Territories, and shall not be forced upon the Free States. Yet to-day Slavery is right here in New-York, trying to compel our Courts to recognize its legality here in spite of our laws expressly excluding it; while every Federal Territory is held to be a Slave Territory, and slaves are freely transferred to and held in every one of them. Even Kansas, wherefrom Slavery has been fairly expelled by her people, is still legally a Slave Territory; while Nebraska, though her Territorial Legislature passed an act abolishing it, has had that act vetoed by the Federal Governor. New-Mexico, through Federal influence and dictation, has recently adopted a most atrocious Slave Code; and slaves, to our personal knowledge, are to-day held in Utah. How idle to cry "Peace! Peace!" until the Nation shall have conclusively settled that this is or is not to be!

—Although the Unionists would seem to denounce both the great parties, without indicating any middle ground of their own, yet the manifest drift and tenor of their fulminations tended (as in the above quotation from Mr. J. M. Harris) to incite the Republicans as well as to not knavish disturbers of the National peace. And yet, one of their letter-writers—the Hon. James O. Putnam, two years since American candidate for Secretary of State—truly writes them that—

"If our Union cannot survive the conflict of opinions on the subject of Slavery, there is no hope of its salvation. For so long as Slavery exists, especially in an aggressive institution, so long as it is a source of discord and dissension, so long as it is a source of contention and strife, so long as it is a source of division and disunion, so long as it is a source of weakness and decay, so long as it is a source of shame and reproach, so long as it is a source of peril and danger, so long as it is a source of ruin and destruction, so long as it is a source of death and doom, so long as it is a source of hell and damnation, so long as it is a source of eternal fire and brimstone, so long as it is a source of everlasting punishment and torment, so long as it is a source of endless woe and sorrow, so long as it is a source of perpetual misery and affliction, so long as it is a source of unending grief and lamentation, so long as it is a source of unrelenting sorrow and pain, so long as it is a source of unceasing anguish and agony, so long as it is a source of unending horror and terror, so long as 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